(d) what steps are being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) M/s. Lupin Labs. could not commence basic stage production within the stipulated period due to various reasons like technology constraints etc. The relaxation period has therefore been extended till 31.3.1993, after which the company is expected to commence basic stage manufacture. Accordingly import of intermediates have been permitted during this period upto 31.3.1993.

(b) No Sir. The company was given import entitlement in 1992-93 based on the allocation fixed for them taking into consideration the current requirements.

(c) and (d) Some discrepancy in respect of imports of raw materials for exports of anti-TB drugs is stated to have been noted by the Department of Company Affairs. It is understood that further action in this regard is being taken by the Department of Revenue and the Officer of the CCI and F.

Insignificant incidentals as against actuals

1882. SHRI ABDUL SAMAD SIDDIQUI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the leader prices/ceiling prices for category II formulations are being notified with a view to help the manufacturers to take the higher prices from Government for the formulations;

(b) The reasons for allowing 8 per cent incidentals against actuals which are insignificant even to those formulators who use their own bulk drugs;

(c) whether it is a fact that producers are benefited by crores of rupees in this manner; and

(d) what is the position of rifampicin, trimethoprim, ibuprofen etc. where major producers of bulk drugs also use bulk drugs in their own formulations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Incidentals @ 8 per cent are allowed in cases of ceiling prices only and in other cases incidentals are allowed as per supporting documents subject to maximum of 8 per cent. Incidentals, are allowed to include in costing the expenses incurred on Central/State Sales Tax, freight, insurance, handling charges, purchase tax, entry tax, octroi etc. wherever applicable.

(c) No, Sir.

Restoration of fertilizer subsidy

1883. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to restore fertilizer subsidy; if so, by when; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Nitorgenous fertilizers still continue to be subsidised through the Retention Price Scheme. However, based on the recommendations of the JPC on Fertilizer Pricing all phosphatic and potassic fertilizers were removed from price and movement control w.e.f. 25-8-1992. Certain concessions in price have also been offered to farmers in the purchase of decontrolled fertilizers.

Shortage of Vitamin 'C'

1884. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of Vitamin 'C' in the market and manufacturers are demanding large advances for supply thereof and charging premium thereon;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that Vitamin 'C' is being sold